(*d*) 1. Honorary Assistant Surgeon M. P. Neelacantan Nambiar, who is in charge of the Hospital, is in charge of part of the male ward. He supervises the work done in the Hospital by his subordinates and attends the office work.

2. Honorary Sub-Assistant Surgeon C. R. Nathan is in charge of the out-patient male side and also a part of the male ward.

3. Sub-Assistant Surgeon M. Parukutty Amma looks after the out-patient female side and the female ward.

BUDGET FIGURES 1116—PUBLISHING OF

125. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they had published and made available to the public the figures of the Budget of the Cochin Government for 1116 before the printed Budget Estimates were "confidentially" sent to the Members of this House;

(*b*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that certain newspapers published extracts from the Budget for 1116 before they were made known to the Members of the House?

Mr. K. V. Menon *(Publicity Officer):*

(*a*) Bare figures relating to the Budget of 1116 were furnished to the Press on 14th June, 1940.

(*b*) No answer is necessary in view of answer to (*a*).

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Have the Government any objection to give the bare figures relating to the budget to the members of the Legislative Council also along with the Press representatives?

Mr. K. V. Menon *(Publicity Officer):* Only bare figures were given to the Press, and I believe most of the hon'ble members would have read them from the papers. I do not think it is necessary to send the information to the members of the Legislative Council, because a few days hence they would be getting a copy of the budget itself.

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Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know, Sir, whether there is any difficulty in sending the budget estimate to the members of the Legislative Council at least fourteen days prior to the budget session, so that they may get time to study the budget?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Comptroller of Finance and Accounts):* That would be very difficult. Even as it is, we are hard-pressed for time to get the thing through and so to send it one more week in advance would be very very difficult.

APPENDIX I

[*Please see answer to question No. 121, sub-division (d)*]

Petition dated 3rd Thulam 1115, from the Land-owners and the Agriculturists of Meloor, Chalakkudi

"We, the following land-owners and the agriculturists of the village of Meloor in the Mukundapuram Taluk, most humbly beg to submit the following for your kind consideration and necessary action.

This village is bounded on the north by the Chalakkudi river and on the east by the Manjapra Pakuthi of the Kunnathunadu Taluk in the State of Travancore. The north-east corner of this village is, in comparison with the other parts, most fertile and therefore specially suited for agricultural works of various kinds. The famous "Adichil Farm" belonging to the Valia Thampuran Palliyara, is situated here. But owing to the scarcity of rain and want of facilities for getting down water from river which requires the sanction of the Travancore Government as the river in that part runs through that State, the lands in these parts do not lend themselves to be converted as fields other than single crop ones depending for their water supply on the whimsical south-west monsoon. And not uncommonly even these single annual crops are at times destroyed by either the floods due to the excess of rain and at other times by the scarcity of it. We have several times before this memorialised the Government pointing out these facts and claiming a remission of land revenue, with no effect. This petition is for bringing to the notice of the Government a simple scheme which entails no expenditure on the part of the Government and which at the same time, claims to be of profit to both the Government and ourselves alike.

One Parakkal Devassy has, with the sanction of the Travancore Government, constructed an irrigational canal from "Ezhattumukham Panampuzha" which runs through the Manjapra Pakuthi lying to the east of the aforesaid north-eastern corner of this village, and several acres of land have been now brought under cultivation. This area newly brought under cultivation and lying in the Travancore State, though actually less fertile than our place, is now made fit to yield three crops of paddy annually or to cultivate banana, sugar-cane, etc., at any time of the year. The canal reaches to the boundary of the Travancore State not far from the "Adichil Farm" and much water brought down through this canal now runs to waste as the cultivable land in that part of the Travancore State is limited. If this excess water which now runs to waste can be made available here, it will really be a great boon to us as we can raise double crops in our fields, and at the same time a profit to the Cochin Government as additional revenue for such double crops can be realised. We also

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